



a Kendall Hunt Company

Feast of the Holy Family, Year C - RCLB Lectionary



Lectionary: 17C

Read: [Luke 2:41-52](#)

Gospel Summary

In today's Gospel, Mary and Joseph discover that Jesus is not with them in the caravan returning home from celebrating the Passover in Jerusalem. After searching for three days, they find him back in the Temple. Mary questions why Jesus stayed behind, but she does not fully understand Jesus' response—he had to be in his Father's house.

Reflection for Parents

Parents who have lost track of a child, even for a few minutes, can understand the anxiety Mary and Joseph must have felt when they realized that Jesus was not with them. Like most children, Jesus seemed rather nonplussed about it all. While most parents strive to do their best at keeping track of their children and keeping their children safe from harm, there will be times of anxiety, confusion, and worry along the way. As a parent, pray daily for God's protection for your children and for all children of the world—especially those in harm's way.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

The word *holy* means "connected to God." Today, take a family inventory of how you are staying connected to God. Decide as a family one way you can become a more holy family by deepening your connection to God in the coming year. Perhaps you will say grace together at every meal, whether at home or in a restaurant. Maybe you will increase your donations to the parish food pantry or clothes closet. Or maybe you will take the time to pray together each day before leaving for school or work.

Discussion Starters

1. A time when I was lost and frightened was . . .
2. I think our family is holy because . . .
3. A gift I give to our family is . . .